

Message

From: Carroll, Timothy [Carroll.Timothy@epa.gov]
Sent: 11/9/2022 7:43:53 PM
To: Sullivan, Melissa [sullivan.melissa@epa.gov]; EPA Press Office [Press@epa.gov]
Subject: Re: FOR APPROVAL: Data question about pollutant reduction figures in ECHO database

Gtg

From: Sullivan, Melissa <sullivan.melissa@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 9, 2022 2:36:00 PM
To: EPA Press Office <Press@epa.gov>; Carroll, Timothy <Carroll.Timothy@epa.gov>
Subject: FOR APPROVAL: Data question about pollutant reduction figures in ECHO database

OECA approved.

There are a few reasons for null values in the AVERAGE_ANNUAL_VALUE column in the CASE_ENFORCEMENT_CONCLUSION_POLLUTANTS.csv table. The CASE_ENFORCEMENT_CONCLUSION_POLLUTANTS.csv table doesn't include records where the state was the lead agency on the enforcement action and the bullets below apply to federal enforcement actions.

- The enforcement action was resolving a violation that doesn't readily translate to a pollutant quantity.
 - Starting in FY2012 quantifiable benefits are measured and reported in three categories of complying actions:
 - 1) Removal and Restoration,
 - 2) Reduction of Ongoing Releases, and
 - 3) Prevention of Future Releases.
 - There is a fourth category, Work Practice Standards, for which quantifiable benefits are not reported. Work Practice Standards include actions like environmental management reviews, financial responsibility requirements, labeling/material management, permitting etc. While a specific pollutant might be the target of the work practice standard, the remedy or complying action will not result in a direct or preventive reduction, or restoration or removal of pollutants; therefore, no quantifiable benefits are reported.
- The enforcement action type might be penalty only.

Guidance on how EPA calculates the environmental benefits of enforcement actions has evolved since EPA issued the first Environmental Benefit Guide in 2001. This guidance is periodically updated and the most current guidance is from 2021 (Guide to Calculating Environmental Benefits from EPA Enforcement Cases). For more detail on how EPA currently calculates the environmental benefits of enforcement actions, please see the Guide to Calculating Environmental Benefits from EPA Enforcement Cases.

Melissa A. Sullivan (She/Her/Hers)
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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
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Begin forwarded message:

From: Savanna Strott <sstrott@publichealthwatch.org>
Date: November 7, 2022 at 9:41:02 AM EST

To: press@epa.gov

Subject: Data question about pollutant reduction figures in ECHO database

Hello,

I hope you and your team enjoyed your weekend.

I'm a reporter with Public Health Watch, and I have a question about some ECHO data. Specifically, I'm looking at the CASE_ENFORCEMENT_CONCLUSION_POLLUTANTS.csv. In the column AVERAGE_ANNUAL_VALUE (the average annual amount of pollutant reduction as a result of the enforcement action), there are some rows with blanks. I just want to clarify what those blanks mean — if they mean "0" or something else. I've attached a picture of some examples of these in the csv.

Would you be able to give me this response today? If that's not possible, receiving the answer tomorrow or Wednesday works for me, too.

Thank you for your help on this!
Savanna

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Savanna Strott
Contributing Writer



ACTIVITY ID	CASE NUMBER	EPA CONCLUSION OF STATE ACTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT	ICR ID	POLLUTANT CODE	POLLUTANT NAME	AVERAGE ANNUAL VALUE	POLLUTANT UNIT CODE	REGULATORY CODE	REGULATORY DESCRIPTION	DOF OR LAMP FLAG
82346	16-1006-0000	50166	2500601000	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82347	16-1006-0001	50167	2500601001	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82348	16-1006-0002	50168	2500601002	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82349	16-1006-0003	50169	2500601003	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82350	16-1006-0004	50170	2500601004	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82351	16-1006-0005	50171	2500601005	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82352	16-1006-0006	50172	2500601006	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82353	16-1006-0007	50173	2500601007	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82354	16-1006-0008	50174	2500601008	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82355	16-1006-0009	50175	2500601009	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82356	16-1006-0010	50176	2500601010	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82357	16-1006-0011	50177	2500601011	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82358	16-1006-0012	50178	2500601012	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82359	16-1006-0013	50179	2500601013	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82360	16-1006-0014	50180	2500601014	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82361	16-1006-0015	50181	2500601015	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82362	16-1006-0016	50182	2500601016	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82363	16-1006-0017	50183	2500601017	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82364	16-1006-0018	50184	2500601018	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82365	16-1006-0019	50185	2500601019	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82366	16-1006-0020	50186	2500601020	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82367	16-1006-0021	50187	2500601021	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82368	16-1006-0022	50188	2500601022	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82369	16-1006-0023	50189	2500601023	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82370	16-1006-0024	50190	2500601024	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82371	16-1006-0025	50191	2500601025	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82372	16-1006-0026	50192	2500601026	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82373	16-1006-0027	50193	2500601027	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82374	16-1006-0028	50194	2500601028	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82375	16-1006-0029	50195	2500601029	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82376	16-1006-0030	50196	2500601030	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82377	16-1006-0031	50197	2500601031	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82378	16-1006-0032	50198	2500601032	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82379	16-1006-0033	50199	2500601033	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82380	16-1006-0034	50200	2500601034	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82381	16-1006-0035	50201	2500601035	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82382	16-1006-0036	50202	2500601036	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82383	16-1006-0037	50203	2500601037	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82384	16-1006-0038	50204	2500601038	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82385	16-1006-0039	50205	2500601039	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82386	16-1006-0040	50206	2500601040	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82387	16-1006-0041	50207	2500601041	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82388	16-1006-0042	50208	2500601042	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82389	16-1006-0043	50209	2500601043	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82390	16-1006-0044	50210	2500601044	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82391	16-1006-0045	50211	2500601045	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82392	16-1006-0046	50212	2500601046	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82393	16-1006-0047	50213	2500601047	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82394	16-1006-0048	50214	2500601048	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82395	16-1006-0049	50215	2500601049	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82396	16-1006-0050	50216	2500601050	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82397	16-1006-0051	50217	2500601051	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82398	16-1006-0052	50218	2500601052	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
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82404	16-1006-0058	50224	2500601058	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82405	16-1006-0059	50225	2500601059	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82406	16-1006-0060	50226	2500601060	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82407	16-1006-0061	50227	2500601061	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82408	16-1006-0062	50228	2500601062	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82409	16-1006-0063	50229	2500601063	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82410	16-1006-0064	50230	2500601064	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82411	16-1006-0065	50231	2500601065	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82412	16-1006-0066	50232	2500601066	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82413	16-1006-0067	50233	2500601067	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82414	16-1006-0068	50234	2500601068	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82415	16-1006-0069	50235	2500601069	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82416	16-1006-0070	50236	2500601070	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82417	16-1006-0071	50237	2500601071	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82418	16-1006-0072	50238	2500601072	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82419	16-1006-0073	50239	2500601073	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82420	16-1006-0074	50240	2500601074	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82421	16-1006-0075	50241	2500601075	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82422	16-1006-0076	50242	2500601076	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82423	16-1006-0077	50243	2500601077	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82424	16-1006-0078	50244	2500601078	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82425	16-1006-0079	50245	2500601079	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
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82427	16-1006-0081	50247	2500601081	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82428	16-1006-0082	50248	2500601082	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82429	16-1006-0083	50249	2500601083	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
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82432	16-1006-0086	50252	2500601086	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82433	16-1006-0087	50253	2500601087	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
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82436	16-1006-0090	50256	2500601090	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82437	16-1006-0091	50257	2500601091	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82438	16-1006-0092	50258	2500601092	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82439	16-1006-0093	50259	2500601093	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
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82447	16-1006-0101	50267	2500601101	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82448	16-1006-0102	50268	2500601102	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
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82463	16-1006-0117	50283	2500601117	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82464	16-1006-0118	50284	2500601118	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82465	16-1006-0119	50285	2500601119	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82466	16-1006-0120	50286	2500601120	10785	0000 Prochlorococcus					C
82467	16-1006-0121	50287	2500601121	10785</						